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FOOD INFORMATION CALENDAR

OFFICE OF INFORMATION UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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No. 172

THE FAMINE EMERGENCY CAMPAIGN. . . . These words of President Truman after he had received Secretary Anderson's report on our 1945-46 famine relief shipments (Press Release 1506, 7/12/46) and had praised our accomplishments to date strikes the keynote for the task ahead:

Only by continued cooperation among all of us can we as a nation do our full share in the months to come to relieve the hunger that still exists in the world. The importance of this effort in relieving human suffering and establishing world peace cannot be overestimated.

The "immediate task" as expressed by D. A. FitzGerald, Secretary-General of IEFC, will last through September. By that time, the most urgent period of the food crisis will have ended, and it will be possible to estimate world food production. Then, will come the new lap in the race against starvation, with new goals for winning the race, if possible, by the end of 1947. So--we press on guided by Paul C. Stark, new Director of the Office of Emergency Food Program. You will continue to receive the Famine Campaign Roundup--read it for the latest developments each week.

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STOP, LOOK, AND LISTEN, National Farm Safety Week is July 22-27! Senator Thomas, Chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, will "kick-off" the program over the Mutual network, July 22 at 9:30 p.m., EST. The Consumer Time show will observe the Week by a program on safety in the home July 27, 1:15 p.m., EST, over ABC.

"Watch Your Step, Avoid Farm Accidents," the Department's revised safety booklet MP 608, "escaped" from the printers this week in time to reach the field by the 22nd. Wide distribution has been made to field offices of the Department. This booklet supersedes MP-481 and brings up to date facts and figures on farm safety. It suggests ways and means to play safe on the farm, in the home and in driving cars and trucks. Several attractive and helpful features have been added to MP 608. The keynote is "An Accident Is Looking for a Place to Happen." Perhaps you can keep it from finding that place.

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FUR-BEARING ANIMALS. . . . The Animal Husbandry Division of BAI is negotiating the actual transfer of that part of Interior's Fish & Wildlife Service authorized by Congress to become a part of USDA as of June 30. The work in connection with fur-bearing animals (including rabbits) raised in captivity thus becomes the concern of USDA while fish and game regulatory work remains under Interior.

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AGRICULTURAL LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENTS. . . . July 11, both Houses agreed to the conference report on omnibus flood control bill. July 12, the Senate passed the price-control extension bill; the President approved a bill to continue land bank commissioner loans. July 13, the Senate Agriculture and Forestry Committee reported a bill to provide for payment of 30¢ bonus on wheat sold between January 1, 1945 and April 18, 1946; Representative Flannagan introduced a forestry fiscal -omnibus bill; the Senate gave approval to the President's reorganization plan No. 3 (validates the transfer of WFA functions to the Secretary of Agriculture and transfers to the Interior Department jurisdiction over minerals in Agriculture Department lands). July 15, the House passed the Flannagan-Hope research-marketing bill; the House Agriculture Committee reported a bill to provide for two additional Assistant Secretaries of Agriculture; both Houses agreed to the conference report on a bill to continue administration of and to provide for the liquidation of rural rehabilitation projects; the Senate agreed to the conference report on the government corporations' appropriation bill, receded from the Senate amendment authorizing a TVA fertilizer plant; the Senate disapproved the President's reorganization plan No. 1 (would have consolidated the Department's research bureaus under the Secretary of Agriculture).

July 16, the Senate sent the price-control extension bill to conference; the House completed action on the government corporations' appropriation bill; the Senate passed a bill to continue the Sugar Act for one year; the Senate passed the third deficiency appropriation bill (includes funds for Swan Island animal quarantine station and Farm Labor Supply Program), agreed to Senator Cordon's amendment to authorize CCC to buy and process surplus potatoes for foreign relief; the Senate Agriculture and Forestry Committee reported the O'Mahoney bill to provide for price support, standards work, and research on wool. July 17, the Senate passed bills to: continue Federal administration of the Agricultural Conservation Program, authorize Swan Island animal quarantine station, provide 1947 cotton-marketing quotas, provide 1947 peanut-marketing quotas, provide for future peanut-marketing quotas as large as in 1941; the Senate discussed and passed over a bill to provide for two additional Assistant Secretaries of Agriculture; the Senate confirmed the nomination of James R. Isleib to be land bank commissioner.

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A SUMMING UP of National Home Food Preservation Week, July 15-22, and the outlook for the greatest home food preservation year in history will be the theme of Paul C. Stark's July 22 radio message (2:30 p.m., EST) over CBS. He will emphasize the need for all-out production in terms of food preserved now and as long as there are fruits and vegetables to preserve this year.

A revised version of MP 544, Community Canning Centers, just off the press, should prove a timely aid in the community canning program. Full use of community canning centers for all possible foods is the aim of this program.

Home canners are being asked by USDA to make one pound of sugar do for four quarts of fruit, the wartime average. An extra sugar stamp has been validated for the exclusive use of home canners, and the Department is urging housewives not to use it for any other purpose. This is something worthwhile to urge!

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WANTED! SCRAP METAL! is the latest emergency call of OWMR which USDA and farmers are being asked to heed.

On the warning of CPA that urgently needed steel production may have to be slowed down if the flow of scrap metal to steel mills is not speeded up, OWMR has announced a 10-point program of action for this purpose. Refining and processing new materials is a much slower process than using scrap. As part of the program all government agencies are called upon to "institute an intensive scrap metal housecleaning drive." The practice of accumulating piles of scrap before calling for bids will be discontinued during the emergency.

About 20 percent more farm machinery was produced in May than in April of this year in spite of the strikes. As farmers get new machinery, they should have old machinery that could be sold for junk. About half the metal used in farm machinery and in tin cans comes from scrap metal. It is, therefore, of vital importance to farmers that steel mills have sufficient scrap to maintain top production of new machinery and other badly needed goods.

So--urge farmers to take their scrap metal to the nearest junk dealer and sell it at current good prices. Taking it to the dealer is emphasized because many dealers are still without trucks to pick it up.

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THE 1947 ACP PROGRAM will be announced officially by the time you receive this. For the first time, the Agricultural Conservation Program allows up to 10 percent of county conservation funds to carry out practices not included in the list approved for States. This, the most important change in the 1947 program places additional responsibility on farmers and county committeemen. The 314-million-dollar allotment for the 1947 ACP program is about the same as the 1946 appropriation. It will be used to assist farmers and ranchers in carrying out soil and water conservation practices and in harvesting grass and legume seeds.

Dave Davidson, Director of PMA's Field Service Branch, states that greater emphasis on the local approach should help make some needed shifts--from practices which were necessary for quick wartime production to those of greater long-term value.

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RADIO SCHEDULE, JULY 20. . . . AMERICAN FARMER, ABC, 11:30 p.m., EST, "The Business Side of Farming," 5-minute summary of USDA news and economic information by Ken Gapen, Chief, Radio Service.

NATIONAL FARM AND HOME HOUR, NBC, 12:00 p.m., EST
Department of Agriculture Headlines, USDA news by Ken Gapen.

CONSUMER TIME, NBC, 11:15 p.m., EST, "House on Hazard Hill", program on safety in the home, supporting National Farm Safety Week.

SOME USDA RELEASES. . . . USDA buys 2,583,000 lbs. of dried eggs for export--1507;
Third quarter fats and oils allocations reduced--1511;
Futures trading varied, cotton, oats, eggs up, wheat and rye down--1517;
USDA buys 3,562,000 more pounds of frozen eggs for export under an
export procurement program announced recently calling for 32,000,000
pounds--1521;
1946 indicated crop acreages and sows farrowed, with goal comparisons,
summary of BAE and PMA report based on Crop Production Report and
the Pig Crop report, and other data--1523;
Increased acreage of corn hybrids indicate their popularity--1524
Farmers exempted from wheat sales requirement--1532;
Farm Labor Report by BAE summarized--wage rates of hired farm workers
where highest on record July and 8% higher than year ago--Avg.
daily rate with board now \$4.84 as compared with \$1.98 in 1941--1531;
Proper timing important in treating seed alfalfa with DDT--1536;
Careful use of sugar urged in home canning--1539;
Process tankage fertilizer production shows steady decrease for the
four years ended April 30 because of scarcity of raw materials--1548;
The dairy situation, dairymen expected to receive better prices rest of
1946--1552;
U. S. diet report covering 37 years released by USDA--1557;
Continuing grain shortage curtails beer production--1559.

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NEWS FROM FAO AND IIEFC. . . .A comprehensive world food survey will be ready
for the Food and Agriculture Organization con-
vention in Copenhagen which begins September 2, FAO reports. The survey will
include the pre-war picture of production, consumption, and requirements;
changes brought about by the war, and the present status. With this in-
formation, delegates can estimate the postwar need and make plans for meeting
them.

The latest word from the International Emergency Food Council is that its
commodity committees are considering applications of several other nations
for membership in the IIEFC. Those that can make a contribution to the work
and who are otherwise eligible will be offered membership--announcement of
applications approved will be made soon.

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